

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1 - 43. (cancelled)

44. (currently amended) A cosmetic formulation ~~topical composition~~ consisting essentially of (a) a vasodilating amount of a polymer having from 7 to 15 subunits, each subunit consisting of a member of the group selected from L-arginine and physiologically acceptable salts of L-arginine wherein said polymer increases vasodilation and (b) a cosmetically or dermatologically acceptable vehicle.
45. (currently amended) The cosmetic formulation ~~composition~~ according to claim 44 in which the polymer contains 7, 9, 11, 13 or 15 subunits.
46. (currently amended) The cosmetic formulation ~~composition~~ according to claim 44 in which the polymer contains 7, 9, 11, or 13 subunits.
47. (currently amended) The cosmetic formulation ~~composition~~ according to claim 44 in which the polymer contains 7 or 9 subunits.
48. (currently amended) The cosmetic formulation ~~composition~~ according to claim 44, wherein the cosmetic formulation is a ~~selected from~~ skin care composition[[s]], lip care composition[[s]], hair care composition[[s]], and or dental care composition[[s]].

49. (currently amended) The cosmetic formulation composition according to claim 44, wherein the cosmetic formulation is a ~~selected from~~ cream[[s]], lotion[[s]], solution[[s]], suspension[[s]], powder[[s]], emulsion[[s]], gel[[s]], waxy product[[s]], powder[[s]] ~~and~~ or solid[[s]].
50. (currently amended) The cosmetic formulation composition according to claim 44, wherein said cosmetic formulation is incorporated into a ~~selected from skin-washing and~~ skin-cleansing preparation[[s]], soapless detergent[[s]], body lotion[[s]], emulsion[[s]], skin oil[[s]], peeling or scrub preparation[[s]], peeling mask[[s]], foam bath[[s]], bath milk[[s]], shower preparation[[s]], bath cube[[s]], bath salt[[s]], facial make-up, eyeshadow, mascara, eyeliner, eye cream[[s]], lipstick[[s]], lip gloss, lip contour pencil[[s]], nail polish, nail varnish, foot bath[[s]], foot powder[[s]], foot cream[[s]], foot balsam[[s]], callous-removing preparation[[s]], sun milk[[s]], sun lotion[[s]], sun cream[[s]], sun oil[[s]], sun block[[s]], pre-tanning preparation[[s]], after-sun preparation[[s]], self-tanning cream[[s]], toothpaste[[s]], tooth powder[[s]], gum treatment paste[[s]], gum treatment gel[[s]], gum rinse[[s]], shampoo[[s]], conditioner[[s]], styling cream[[s]], styling gel[[s]], hair rinse[[s]], foam[[s]], hairspray[[s]], hair dye[[s]] ~~and-or~~ hair colorant[[s]].
51. (currently amended) The cosmetic formulation composition according to claim 44 in which the subunits are selected from L-arginine and L-arginine salts selected from the group consisting of L-arginine sulfate, hydrobromide, hydrochloride, sulfate, bisulfate,

nitrate, acetate, oxalate, valerate, oleate, palmitate, stearate, laureate, borate, benzoate, lactate, phosphate, tosylate, citrate, maleate, fumarate, succinate, tartrate, naphthylate, mesylate, glucoheptonate, lactobionate and laurylsulfonate; alkali and alkaline earth metal salts of L-arginine; and ammonium, quaternary ammonium and amine salts of L-arginine.

52. (currently amended) The cosmetic formulation ~~composition~~ according to claim 44, further containing one or more ingredients selected from antimicrobials, moisturizers and hydration agents, penetration agents, preservatives, emulsifiers, natural or synthetic oils, solvents, surfactants, detergents, gelling agents, emollients, antioxidants, fragrances, fillers, thickeners, waxes, odor absorbers, dyestuffs, coloring agents, powders, viscosity-controlling agents and water, and optionally including anesthetics, anti-itch actives, botanical extracts, conditioning agents, darkening or lightening agents, glitter, hair pigment additives, humectants, mica, minerals, polyphenols, silicones or derivatives thereof, sunblocks, vitamins, and phytomedicinals.
53. (currently amended) The cosmetic formulation ~~composition~~ according to claim 44, further containing one or more additional skin care, lip care, dental care or hair care active agents.
54. (currently amended) The cosmetic formulation ~~composition~~ according to claim 53 further containing one or more ingredients selected from anti-acne actives; anti-wrinkle, anti-skin atrophy and skin repair actives; skin barrier repair actives; non-steroidal cosmetic

soothing actives; artificial tanning agents and accelerators; skin lightening actives; sunscreen actives; sebum stimulators; sebum inhibitors; anti-oxidants; protease inhibitors; skin tightening agents; anti-itch ingredients; 5-alpha reductase inhibitors; desquamating enzyme enhancers; anti-glycation agents; and mixtures thereof.

55. (currently amended) The cosmetic formulation ~~composition~~ according to claim 44 in which the polymer further comprises a hydrophobic, hydrophilic, or amphipathic moiety, or a second polymer, linked or anchored to a terminal L-arginine subunit of the polymer.
56. (currently amended) A cosmetic formulation ~~topical composition~~ consisting essentially of (a) a vasodilating amount of a polymer having from 7 to 15 subunits, each subunit consisting of a member of the group selected from L-arginine and physiologically acceptable salts of L-arginine, said polymer further consisting of one or more additional amino acids other than L-arginine, providing that the L-arginine subunits are contiguous and situated at either the C-terminus or the N-terminus of the polymer, wherein the polymer increases vasodilation and (b) a cosmetically or dermatologically acceptable vehicle.
57. (currently amended) The cosmetic formulation ~~composition~~ according to claim 56 in which the polymer contains 7, 9, 11, 13 or 15 contiguous L-arginine subunits.
58. (currently amended) The cosmetic formulation ~~composition~~ according to claim 56 in which the polymer contains 7, 9, 11, or 13 contiguous L-arginine subunits.

59. (currently amended) The cosmetic formulation composition according to claim 56 in which the polymer contains 7 or 9 contiguous L-arginine subunits.
60. (currently amended) The cosmetic formulation composition according to claim 56, wherein the cosmetic formulation is a ~~selected from~~ skin care composition[[s]], lip care composition[[s]], hair care composition[[s]], and or dental care composition[[s]].
61. (currently amended) The cosmetic formulation composition according to claim 56, wherein the cosmetic formulation is a ~~selected from~~ cream[[s]], lotion[[s]], solution[[s]], suspension[[s]], powder[[s]], emulsion[[s]], gel[[s]], waxy product[[s]], powder[[s]] and or solid[[s]].
62. (currently amended) The cosmetic formulation composition according to claim 56, wherein said cosmetic formulation is incorporated into a ~~selected from~~ skin-washing and skin-cleansing preparation[[s]], soapless detergent[[s]], body lotion[[s]], emulsion[[s]], skin oil[[s]], peeling or scrub preparation[[s]], peeling mask[[s]], foam bath[[s]], bath milk[[s]], shower preparation[[s]], bath cube[[s]], bath salt[[s]], facial make-up, eyeshadow, mascara, eyeliner, eye cream[[s]], lipstick[[s]], lip gloss, lip contour pencil[[s]], nail polish, nail varnish, foot bath[[s]], foot powder[[s]], foot cream[[s]], foot balsam[[s]], callous-removing preparation[[s]], sun milk[[s]], sun lotion[[s]], sun cream[[s]], sun oil[[s]], sun block[[s]], pre-tanning preparation[[s]], after-sun preparation[[s]], self-tanning cream[[s]], toothpaste[[s]], tooth powder[[s]], gum

treatment paste[[s]], gum treatment gel[[s]], gum rinse[[s]], shampoo[[s]], conditioner[[s]], styling cream[[s]], styling gel[[s]], hair rinse[[s]], foam[[s]], hairspray[[s]], hair dye[[s]] ~~and~~ or hair colorant[[s]].

63. (currently amended) The cosmetic formulation ~~composition~~ according to claim 56 in which the L-arginine subunits are selected from L-arginine and L-arginine salts selected from the group consisting of L-arginine sulfate, hydrobromide, hydrochloride, sulfate, bisulfate, nitrate, acetate, oxalate, valerate oleate, palmitate, stearate, laureate, borate, benzoate, lactate, phosphate, tosylate, citrate, malcate, hmarate, succinate, tartrate, naphthylate, mesylate, glucoheptonate, lactiobionate and laurylsulfonate; alkali and alkaline earth metal salts of L-arginine; and ammonium, quaternary ammonium and amine salts of L-arginine.
64. (currently amended) The cosmetic formulation ~~composition~~ according to claim 56, further containing one or more additional skin care, lip care, dental care or hair care active agents.
65. (currently amended) The cosmetic formulation ~~composition~~ according to claim 64 further containing one or more active compounds selected from anti-acne actives; anti-wrinkle, anti-skin atrophy and skin repair actives; skin barrier repair actives; non-steroidal cosmetic soothing actives; artificial tanning agents and accelerators; skin lightening actives; sunscreen actives; sebum stimulators; sebum inhibitors; anti-oxidants; protease

inhibitors; skin tightening agents; anti-itch ingredients; 5-alpha reductase inhibitors; desquamating enzyme enhancers; anti-glycation agents; and mixtures thereof.

66. (currently amended) The cosmetic formulation composition according to claim 56, further containing one or more ingredients selected from antimicrobials, moisturizers and hydration agents, penetration agents, preservatives, emulsifiers, natural or synthetic oils, solvents, surfactants, detergents, gelling agents, emollients, antioxidants, fragrances, fillers, thickeners, waxes, odor absorbers, dyestuffs, coloring agents, powders, viscosity-controlling agents and water, and optionally including anesthetics, anti-itch actives, botanical extracts, conditioning agents, darkening or lightening agents, glitter, hair pigment additives, humectants, mica, minerals, polyphenols, silicones or derivatives thereof, sunblocks, vitamins, and phytomedicinals.
67. (currently amended) The cosmetic formulation composition according to claim 56 in which the polymer further comprises a hydrophobic, hydrophilic, or amphipathic moiety, or a second polymer, linked or anchored to a terminal L-arginine subunit of the polymer.
68. (currently amended) A method for dilating blood vessels in a region of the body to achieve a cosmetic effect, said method comprising topically applying a dilating effective amount of a composition comprising a polymer having from 7 to 15 subunits, each subunit consisting of a member of the group selected from L-arginine and physiologically acceptable salts of L-arginine, to the region of the body to achieve the cosmetic effect.

~~The method of therapeutically caring for the skin, hair, lips or gums comprising applying thereto an enhancing effective amount of the composition according to claim 44.~~

69. (cancelled)

70. (currently amended) The method according to claim 68, ~~in which the composition is applied to promote angiogenesis in hair follicles,~~wherein the cosmetic effect is selected from the group consisting of prevention of hair loss, promotion of hair regrowth, increase in length or thickness of eyelashes, and increase in length or thickness of eyebrows.

71. (currently amended) The method according to claim 68, wherein the cosmetic effect is the alleviation of signs of aging in skin. ~~in which the composition is applied to alleviate signs of aging in skin.~~

72. (currently amended) The method according to claim 68, wherein the cosmetic effect is selected from the group consisting of increased lip plumpness, a change in lip color, and a change in lip contour. ~~in which the composition is applied to enhance the appearance of lips.~~

73. (previously presented) The method according to claim 68 in which the composition is applied to enhance sensitivity of skin.

74. (currently amended) The method according to claim 68, wherein said cosmetic effect is the in which the composition is applied for stabilization or remodeling of fat.
75. (currently amended) The method according to claim 68, wherein said cosmetic effect is the in which the composition is applied for treatment of gum regression.
76. (currently amended) A method for dilating blood vessels in a region of the body to achieve a cosmetic effect, said method comprising topically applying a dilating effective amount of a composition comprising a polymer having from 7 to 15 subunits, each subunit consisting of a member of the group selected from L-arginine and physiologically acceptable salts of L-arginine, the polymer further consisting of one or more additional amino acids other than L-arginine, providing that the L-arginine subunits are contiguous and situated at either the C-terminus or the N-terminus of the polymer, to the region of the body to achieve the cosmetic effect.
77. (cancelled)
78. (currently amended) The method according to claim 76 ~~in which the composition is applied to promote angiogenesis in hair follicles.~~ wherein the cosmetic effect is selected from the group consisting of prevention of hair loss, promotion of hair regrowth, increase in length or thickness of eyelashes, and increase in length or thickness of eyebrows.

79. (currently amended) The method according to claim 76, wherein the cosmetic effect is the alleviation of signs of aging in skin. ~~in which the composition is applied to alleviate signs of aging in skin.~~
80. (currently amended) The method according to claim 76, wherein the cosmetic effect is selected from the group consisting of increased lip plumpness, a change in lip color, and a change in lip contour. ~~in which the composition is applied to enhance the appearance of lips.~~
81. (previously presented) The method according to claim 76 in which the composition is applied to enhance sensitivity of skin.
82. (currently amended) The method according to claim 76, wherein said cosmetic effect is the ~~in which the composition is applied for~~ stabilization or remodeling of fat.
83. (currently amended) The method according to claim 76, wherein said cosmetic effect is the ~~in which the composition is applied for~~ treatment of gum regression.
84. (currently amended) The method according to claim 71, wherein said signs of skin aging are selected from the group consisting of textural discontinuities of the skin, loss of skin firmness, loss of skin tightness, loss of skin recoil, discoloration, blotching, sallowness, hyperpigmented skin regions, keratoses, abnormal differentiation, hyperkeratinization, elastosis, collagen breakdown of skin, and histological changes in the stratum corneum,

dermis, epidermis, and skin vascular system. of minimizing the signs of skin aging and the tactile discontinuities in the texture of skin comprising applying thereto an enhancing effective amount of the composition according to claim 44.

85. (currently amended) The method according to claim 79, wherein said signs of skin aging are selected from the group consisting of textural discontinuities of the skin, loss of skin firmness, loss of skin tightness, loss of skin recoil, discoloration, blotching, sallowness, hyperpigmented skin regions, keratoses, abnormal differentiation, hyperkeratinization, elastosis, collagen breakdown of skin, and histological changes in the stratum corneum, dermis, epidermis, and skin vascular system. of minimizing the signs of skin aging and the tactile discontinuities in the texture of skin comprising applying thereto an enhancing effective amount of the composition according to claim 56.